

On Top Of The News

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Saturday, May 23, 2009

INSIDE TODAY



Price of a barrel
of petroleum
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US\$ 61.67 ↑
0.62

U.S. NEWS

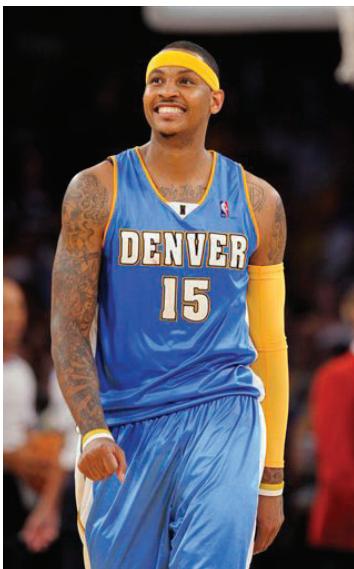
GOTCHA FREE



Credit cards are displayed at a bank ATM, in San Jose, Calif., Friday, May 22, 2009. The new credit card law is receiving widespread kudos as a victory for cardholders over the lenders that impose "gotcha" fees and penalties with scant justification and little notice. *See INTERNATIONAL NEWS*

SPORTS NEWS

MELO SMOOTH



Denver Nuggets forward Carmelo Anthony smiles during the second half of Game 2 of the NBA basketball Western Conference finals against the Los Angeles Lakers, Thursday, May 21, 2009, in Los Angeles. The Nuggets won the game, 106-103. *See Sports Today*

Jamie Foxx headlines SBMF tonight

"Ray Charles told me, 'If you feel it, then you know it's right,'" says Jamie Foxx. "He taught me how to feel." The release of Foxx's long-awaited J Records debut, **UNPREDICTABLE**, demonstrates the lessons the Oscar-winner learned at the feet of one of music's true giants. With a wide range of sounds and emotions, and a breathtaking list of guest stars adding to the mix, the one-time music student at San Diego's United States International University finally fulfills his true dream. From the party-starting first single "Unpredictable" to the smoldering "Love Changes," **UNPREDICTABLE** reveals an artist ready to play in R&B's big leagues. Of course, Foxx's musical skills are no secret—the album

follows his appearance on Kanye West's #1 single "Gold Digger," which reprised the magic of their collaboration on last year's Grammy-nominated smash "Slow Jamz." That hit was just one taste of Jamie Foxx's recent unprecedented accomplishments. In addition to winning the 2005 Oscar Academy Award as Best Actor for his career-defining performance in *Ray*, he was nominated in the Best Supporting Actor category for his part in *Collateral*, making him just the second male actor with nominations for two different films in the same year. Those roles, in conjunction with his acclaimed turn in the FX Networks' *Redemption*, led to him being the first person ever nominated for



three acting awards at the Golden Globes and four SAG awards in one year. But Foxx, 37, is quick to point

out that music isn't just a sideline to his history-making acting career.

Continued on Page 9

The Westin Gallery hosts an interesting art lecture



Palm Beach -- The local Art Exhibition is an integral part of the Westin's fifth edition of the Aruba Wine, Food & Art Festival. While the festival is unfolding over the weekend, the Art Exhibition will remain open and pieces are for sale, until July 10th.

Continued on Page 7



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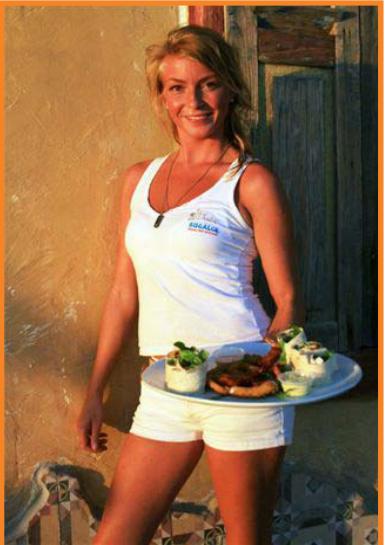
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Bringing More Modern Design Home



Noord – Artist couple Elisa and Chris (Bonki) Lejuez, favor modern design. Their custom-built residence and art gallery on Malmokweg is testimony to their modern design preferences.

Just as the outside is linear

and minimal, the inside space is not confined by traditional walls, or a predictable layout, the clutter-free kitchen flows into the dining room and then into the living space, under very tall ceilings offering an airy and roomy contemporary

residence overlooking an elongated pool with tasteful tropical landscaping. Elisa reports that the elegant black leather couches bought ten years ago, held up well, and continue to serve the couple paired with two brand

new pieces, bought at EQ3 Furniture + Accents Salinja Cercia Strip Mall.

The Lejuez bought the NEST series Cocktail Table whose table top provides a perfect match to their raw concrete floor and a Plasma Unit matching the rest of the décor in color and style.

“We found the design original and it goes well with our leather couches; the two tone

table, goes well with floor,” remarks Elisa while Chris was impressed with the fast delivery, just one hour after purchase, the two pieces were home delivered.

Both agree, the quality is terrific.

Pictured here, Elisa and Chris Lejuez in their living room, with their purchases which seem as if they were always there. □

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With a clown, games and Bonky

Kids play starring roles on Saturday at the 2009 Polesitting Championships



ORANJESTAD - Kids will be playing starring roles this Saturday, when clown Tio Carlos is the entertainer of choice on the Kids' Afternoon of the 2009 Aruban Polesitting Championships. They can expect rousing games of musical chairs, the living fruit machine and wild rides on the mechanical bull Bonky. All the children of Aruba are welcome at Café the Plaza in the Renaissance Marketplace for the event.

The Polesitting



Championships are in full swing. Unfortunately sitter Hellen Mangroelal was disqualified early on Friday morning, when she failed to return to her pole on time after her break. What a pity; she was a trooper!

The good news is that the other four sitters, Diana, Steven,

Otmar and Fritz are still going strong. The daytime hours are more and more difficult now, especially when the sun is out in force.

The evenings are great, with live music keeping everyone but the polesitters on the dance floor. Thursday's performance of Grupo Melao and the salsa

class of Pachanga were both a huge hit, drawing a large, enthusiastic crowd to the Marketplace.

Another piece of good news: deejay Jeroen donated AWG. 100,-- to the Clown Doctors of Aruba, the benefitting charity of this year's Polesitting. What a great gesture! □

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Food & Beverage Big Winners Amit Sen and Gerald Sarmiento

Aruba Marriott Celebrates Manager & Supervisor Q1

ORANJESTAD - During a fun-filled celebration event at Pincho's Bar & Grill all managers and supervisors of all 3 Aruba Marriott properties gathered for the election of the Manager and Supervisor of the first quarter of 2009. As a warm up for the special celebration, a small bartender contest was held. Marriott's Executive Committee members elected the best contestants who will be representing Marriott during the island-wide bartending contest which will be held Friday May 22nd in the hotel's Grand Ballroom.

Vice President & General Manager, Rick Zeolla, congratulated all nine nominees from the last quarter for their commitment to excellence and displaying Marriott's 'Spirit to Serve' the company's associates, customers and the local community.

The manager and supervisor of the first quarter 2009 nominees were selected after careful evaluation of their cooperation and ability to get along with peers, exceptional job performance and supervisory skills, superb attendance and punctuality, and most importantly, having the ability to lead the resort to a higher level as it relates to attentive, courteous and exceptional service.

The 1st Quarter 2009 Supervisor nominees included Nestor Ricuarte – Engineering; Enrique Quintero – Food & Beverage; Mark Trappenberg – Loss Prevention and Gerald Sarmiento from the MVCI Food & Beverage Team. The Supervisor of the 1st Quarter winner was Gerald Sarmiento for his outstanding efforts in leading his team.

The 1st Quarter 2009 Manager nominees included: Shuraima Henriquez – Activities MVCI, Maikel Koolman – Banquets; Fernando Thode – Loss Prevention; Altagracia Lampe – Human Resources. The Manager of the 1st Quarter winner was Amit Sen for his outstanding efforts handling all food & beverage outlets and being of great support

to the Director of Food & Beverage during this period.

The winners of the Aruba Marriott bartending contest that were selected during the celebration at Pincho's were Ivan de Jesus, (La Vista @ Marriott Resort), Wilma Benjamin (Captain's Galley, Marriott Surf Club), Joshua Bello (Stellaris Casino) and Roberto de Cuba (Champions

Sports Bar, (Marriott Ocean Club). They will be representing Marriott during the Spirit of the Caribbean Summer 2009 Bartender Contest which will take place on Friday May 22nd in Marriott's Grand Ballroom, starting at 8 PM, with live performances by NBO. Entrance to this event is 5 florins – all drinks are \$2 (beer and wine) or \$4 (mixed drinks). □



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Eddy Samson provides top notch entertainment at the French Steakhouse



Eagle Beach--Jazzaficionados and those who appreciate music in general may mark their calendars, as the Aruba's third annual Caribbean Sea Jazz Festival, is approaching, held over the weekend of September 4th and 5th at the island's Cas di Cultura, in the

area just above the Talk of the Town Resort.

Festival-goers will enjoy a lineup that includes international artists like American sax player David Sanborn and singer Izaline Callister, from Curacao.

The festival was a great hit

also last year, when local and regional artists met and jammed exciting fans with a memorable mix of instruments and musical performances.

One of last year's festival stars pianist Eddy Samson, plays live jazz on piano nightly at the French Steakhouse, the Manchebo Beach Resort & Spa.

Eddy who is one of Aruba's best entertainers, is a walking & breathing music encyclopedia, just whistle the tune, and Eddy will produce a symphonic version of your favorite song.

Check out Eddy and his piano at the French Steakhouse and the Caribbean Sea Jazz Festival 2009, respectively at: www.manchebo.com.steakhouse, www.caribbeanseajazz.com □



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The Westin Gallery hosts an interesting art lecture



Continued from Front Page

Currently on display works by artists tackling the theme of Arubian Cuisine. It is curated by Aruba Art & Management Consultancy and it features artists Stan Kuiperi, Irene Peterson, Ciro Abath, Marian Abath, Elvis Lopez, Eliza Lejuez, Glenda Heyliger,



Elvis Tromp and Eefje van der Straten-van Twillert. As part of the festival program artist Stan Kuiperi held a lecture Thursday afternoon, outlining Aruba's history of art. The gallery will continue to host events in honor of the festival in the upcoming days. □



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The Brazilian-style steakhouse also offers up a garden full of healthy eats on a lavish 40-item seasonal salad bar, giving dieters plenty to choose from to accompany the

slow-roasted meats. A selection of fresh lettuces and vegetables may be standard for most salad bars, but Texas de Brazil's version goes a gourmet twist further, treating the palate to additional items like marinated portabella mushrooms, sweet roasted bell peppers, hearts of palm, sundried tomatoes, imported cheeses—including fresh buffalo mozzarella—sushi, homemade soups, and much more.

The salad bar is included in the continuous service meal with unlimited choices from the grilled meats, but for vegetarians or the non-meat eaters, a special price is offered for just the salad bar. Of course, for those looking to splurge while on vacation, Texas de Brazil will gladly serve their garlic mashed potatoes, traditional fried plantains, and their world-famous parmesan cheese bread as part of the meal.

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Westin Aruba Resort Wine, Food & Art Festival

Celebrity Artist Maria Rosa joins Festival



PALM BEACH — This weekend, Aruba celebrates the combination of Wine, Food & Art at the Westin Aruba Resort. As a special treat, internationally known Venezuelan Artist Maria Rosa Vallina de Andrew was invited to showcase her artwork at the entrance of the Grand Palm Beach Ballroom where much of the activities are being held.

Maria Rosa Vallina de Andrew was born in Caracas, Venezuela where interest in the world of arts began as a child. She studied at the "Academy of Plastic Arts Crisobal Rojas" in Caracas which jump started her interests in Art to making a lifetime career out of her passion to tell stories through her colors and techniques. Maria Rosa has taken great steps to understand and develop her talent for drawing and colors. She also studies



with Professor Eduardo Perdomo who is recognized as a Plastic Artist in Venezuela with International awards. Subsequently she has participated in various workshops to refine the technique of acrylic and start into the oil paint. Her works have been internationally recognized in various individual and group exhibitions in the USA, Spain and now in Aruba.

You can view Maria Rosa's

work tonight at the entrance of a tribute to Frank Sinatra live at The Westin Aruba Resort presented by Aruba's featured performer Edjean Semeleer. He is a popular performer on the island, well known for his exceptional talent and fabulous shows, is going to be one of the highlights of The Westin Aruba Resort's 5th annual "Wine, Food & Art Festival" tonight. Entrance to the concert is only \$29. □

~ Photos by Julia Renfro ~



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JAMIE FOXX**Continued from Front Page**

"I've been working on music for the last 15 years," he says. "I don't do nothing sideways. If I'm gonna get it, I'm gonna get it 100 percent." He did much of the work on UNPREDICTABLE at his own home studio, and even on the set of his current production, Miami Vice, he's been logging hours in a portable studio lent to him by super producer Timbaland (who manned the boards on the album's "Can I Take You Home").

In fact, Foxx says that the success and notoriety he's enjoyed since his breakthrough performance in 1999's Any Given Sunday is sometimes held against him when he focuses on a different medium. "I've been told many times, 'I know what you did on the acting side and the Oscars and all that, but that doesn't mean anything on the music side!,'" he says. "And that's completely wrong, because the medium of television has bashed that in the head. Music is visual now, as well."

To convince the skeptics, he says, "I had to make sure that the album was tight even if I didn't have anybody to enhance it." But in the end, Foxx was also able to assemble a line-up of guests that reads like a Billboard Top Ten chart—Mary J. Blige, Ludacris, and Twista all add their flavors to UNPREDICTABLE, with production by Timbaland, Babyface and others.

Foxx says that these collaborations all came together naturally. "Those are my friends," he says. "These are people I've formed relationships with over the years, thrown parties for, hung out with."

The Texas-born former star of In Living Color and The Jamie Foxx Show notes that these artists all share a drive and passion he was able to relate to and learn from. "They're all going to be legends," he says. "They want to win—not just for the monetary thing, but for the soul and the spirit. That history does something fantastic to your body and your soul. If it feels that good in the studio, when it gets out there with that Clive Davis presentation, man, people are in trouble!"

Hooking up with Clive Davis—Chairman & CEO, BMG, US, and the music legend behind superstars from Janis Joplin

to Santana to Alicia Keys—was part of Foxx's vision for his music career. In 2005, he engineered a performance at Davis's famous pre-Grammy party at the Beverly Hills Hotel, as a way to showcase his talent directly to the top. "I'd been to the Clive Davis party before," he says, "and I was like, I know how it is, it's high ground up in here, you got to come in legendary already. So I used a little of my comedy to break the ice, and then slipped my singing in on them before they even

knew what was happening." A performance of "Slow Jamz" alongside Kanye West and Twista led to an impromptu sing-off with Alicia Keys and Angie Stone. By evening's end, Davis was a believer and, says Foxx, "I knew I had performed in the right place for the right people at the right time."

True to the album's title, Foxx points to a few songs on UNPREDICTABLE as the most surprising, and thus the ones he's proudest of. "There's

a song called 'I Wish You Were Here,' about my grandmother," he says. "It's a heavy, heavy song—we put it at the end of the album, because I want people to bump and grind and enjoy themselves before they get to that. That's the one that measures your soul." The track "Til I Met Your Sister," he says, presents a new perspective on a slippery situation. "It's about a guy having this infidelity with his girl's sister," says Foxx, "but nobody ever has sung about that in a way where it's not

embarrassing, it's not jokey, it's really serious—like, we really did click and there's no way I can fight it." So did he feel any pressure in following Ray? Was it hard to find the motivation to be creative after giving the performance of a lifetime? Foxx waves off such concerns. "If you go to the mountaintop," he says, "and you hit the very top, even if you go down a hundred feet, you're still on that mountain, and you can still see a whole lot of things.□



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Chef competition at the Pago Pago

Best Dish won by Chef Erwin of the Screaming Eagle



Palm Beach -- Chef Erwin of the Screaming Eagle won top honors Thursday night during a chef competition, held at the Pago Pago restaurant, Westin Aruba Resort, for his sinfully delicious confit of duck liver with roulette of duck leg, nuts, dried fig brioche and caramelized apple, drizzled with a reduction of Pedro Ximenez sherry.

The appetizer landed most public votes during the Taste of Aruba dinner, the first evening event of the Aruba Wine, Food & Art Festival in its fifth edition. It was nicely paired with a Louis Latour Viognier Ardeche, 2007 France, imported by Arion Wine

Company.

Best Wine was won by Solus Cabernet Sauvignon 2005 imported by Chris Fun, a private label, created by the enterprising local businessman and wine aficionado.

Solus was excellently paired with Chef Sony of Las Ramblas' certified beef rib eye with a Solus cabernet sauvignon reduction, for main course.

Best pairing went to Chef Patrice of the Waterfront Crabhouse who prepared a Caribbean lobster tail with black risotto escorted by a spicy mango beurre blanc which created symphonic harmony with Conundrum, 2007, from

the USA, imported by the Aruba Trading Company.

The chefs and the wine importers received a standing ovation for the delightful and delicious gastronomic experience, enjoyed by a sold out crowd of local and visiting food & wine lovers.

The fantastic evening was organized by the Westin Aruba Resort culinary team, under the guidance of Franz Sydow and Ramiro Rafael.

Executive Chef Gerard Coste orchestrated a perfect six-course dinner with his buddies and colleagues Chef Scott Scheuerman of Aqua Grille, Chef Erwin Husken of the Screaming Eagle, Chef Patrice Costa of the Waterfront Crabhouse, Chef Eduard Ellis of Papiamento Restaurant – his young son even dropped in mid-service for a behind-the-scene kitchen visit, checking up on dad, Chef Sonny Partodikromo, of Las Ramblas and Chef Patrick Van der Donk of the Flying Fishbone.

Other stand-out dishes and wines, Chef Scott's tamarind tuna brochette which delivered seared yellow fin tuna with tamarind barbecue sauce served rare with spicy mango relish, buttered chayote and a plantain chip, paired with Mc Williams Chardonnay, 2006, Australia, imported by Playa liquor; Papiamento's



local fish special with a vanilla Taittinger champagne sauce, cassava mofongo, watermelon chutney and fresh tomato, over roasted mini eggplant and cress, paired with Louis Jadot, Chapelle auz Loups 2004 Saint Veran France, imported by Pepia Est.

The colossal dessert, by Patrick

of the Flying Fishbone presented

a baked Vanilla cheesecake with compote of blueberry and dark chocolate curls accompanied by a too good to be true red wine ice cream paired with some bubbly, Castello Banfi Rose Regale, 2006, Italy, carried by Romar Trading.

Pictured here some memorable

Taste of Aruba moments. □



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MAREK T.
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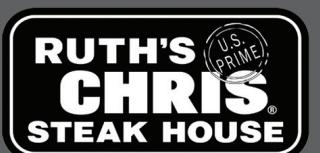
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February, March & April 2009. General Manager Joe Najjar praised the resort associates for their tireless work and for the excellent inter-personal, and inter-departmental relationships they maintain. Ceremony emcee was the resort's first hire, Debby Koolman, and she did an excellent job presenting the winners.

The gathering also acknowledged the contribution of the top Supervisor of the first semester.

The winner for January was Yves Andre of the Engineering Department. Other nominees included Wanda Winterdal, Housekeeping Department, Nixon Castillo, Recreation Department and Stanley Pieters, Security Department.

The winner for February was Vicente Guerrero, Food & Beverage Department, with just one other nominee in the running, Miguel Rasmijn, Engineering Department.

The winner for March was Edgar Garcia, Engineering Department.



Other nominees included Luis Gonzalez, Security Department, Aristibulo Montoya, Pool & Beach Department and Salima Nazim, Recreation Department. The winner for April was Gilberta Koolman, Front Office Department. Other nominees were Jacqueline Rosel, Food & Beverage Department and Naisha Nurse, Recreation Department. The housekeeping department

received an honorable mention for being very supportive of the resort's activities during the first semester. A valuable member of that department Clara Acevedo, also landed the top honor as Supervisor of the Semester with two other outstanding individuals as her runner-ups, Hector Hernandez, Pool & Beach Department and Lindoro Vera, Security Department. □





Robin Thicke

Biography

The award-winning multiplatinum superstar returns to center stage with *Something Else*, a joyful and modern tribute to the '70s soul and pop records that have inspired an extraordinary career.

Something Else is aptly titled. "It's time for hope and change," Thicke says. "It's in the air. And I'm speaking on the times around me." Thicke echoes the change with mesmerizing Superfly-era vocals, Gamble and Huff-inspired horn arrangements ("Hard on My Love"), unabashed lyrical optimism and an irresistible invitation to the dance floor ("Side Step"). "I don't want to be a preacher, but I do think at the core of every great existence is an abundance of love and joy, and the only way to create that is to give it," he adds.

Born in Los Angeles, Thicke grew up with an ear trained squarely at R&B and hip-hop. "I was listening to Kurtis Blow at 8, NWA at 12, Jodeci and Mary J. at 14 and Boyz II Men and Babyface soon after," Thicke says. "I didn't even listen to rock and roll music until I was 17. And I find myself thinking that's more normal than it is." André Harrell (then president of Bad Boy Entertainment and mentor to Mary J. Blige, Puff Daddy and Thicke) heard the lanky white kid and was dumbstruck. "I heard what Martin Luther King, Jr. described in his dream of a new America: a place where a white man in the San Fernando Valley can feel Detroit, Harlem and the blues," he says.

The spirit of Michael Jackson looms large throughout the new release. "Michael is the epitome of celebration, and the core of this album has that: It's celebratory, healing, loving music," Thicke says. To deepen that connection, Thicke employed the same horn section used on Jackson's "You Wanna Be Starting Something," from

the 1979 classic, *Off the Wall*. "André Harrell told me, "When God is singing loud, that's the sound of horns,'" he says. Gary Grant and the Jackson horn section contributed to the album's trans-generational appeal. "I kept the kids on some songs and the adults on others, so it's the sound of young and old coming together." *Something Else* also benefits from writing sessions that took place in different cities, a tactic employed by several of Thicke's idols, including Marvin Gaye. "New York is the

center of information, so I took a few trips there and set up a big studio," Thicke says. Songs like "Sidestep" and "Something Else" with their heavy, insistent grooves, were the result. "Paris is the center of romance," he says, "and I went there, and found 'Sweetest Love,' 'You're My Baby' and 'Miss Harmony.'" The first single, "Magic," draws all of *Something Else*'s influences together into one blast of disco-infused dance pop. Robert Hales, director of Gnarles Barkley's "Crazy" video, was tapped to add visual

balance between downtown dance couture, references to Fred Astaire's *Mr. Universe* and Stanley Kubrick's *2001: A Space Odyssey*, one of Thicke's all-time favorite films.

Melding the retro and the modern across 12 tracks, Robin Thicke leads his international fanbase into inspired, sexy and refreshing new territory. Robin Thicke's first album, *A Beautiful World*, released in 2003, yielded the hit song, "When I Get You Alone," and paved the way for his breakthrough second release,

2006's *The Evolution Of Robin Thicke*. Now on the way to double platinum status, *Evolution's* mega hit "Lost Without U" became the #1 most played song in Urban Adult Contemporary BDS and topped four Billboard charts simultaneously: #1 R&B / Hip Hop album, #1 Hot R&B / Hip Hop song, #1 Hot R&B Hip Hop Airplay, and #1 Hot Adult R&B Airplay. TV appearances included the unprecedented distinction of two appearances on Oprah Winfrey – within two weeks. □

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Edjean will be performing live on stage with a live band giving tribute to the legendary Frank Sinatra.

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We remember him dearly for his numerous original songs and also songs made popular by him. "New York, New York", "All of me", "Strangers in the night", "My Way" and "That's life" are only a few songs that let us reminisce and travel down memory lane to the 40's, 50's and even 60's.

All of these and more will be

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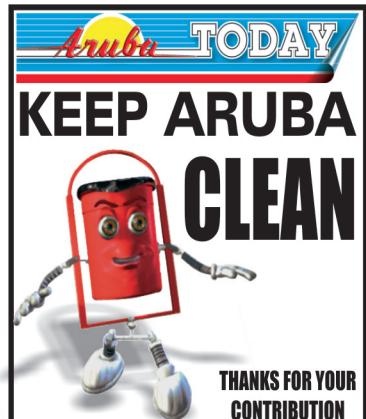
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At the Crystal Theater

"Havana Dance," is the hottest Cuban show on the island



ORANJESTAD - The elegant Crystal Theater sparkles with all the excitement of Las Vegas as the magnificent "Havana

Dance" explodes on stage with a thrilling mix of Latin & Cuban music, colorful costumes and high energy, contemporary Cuban



dance.

"Havana Dance" is the biggest stage production in the Caribbean, featuring Cuban dancers and entertainers directly from Havana. The show delivers a purely Cuban spectacle, with a cast of 12 female ballerinas, 4 male dancers, 2 singers and 3 acrobats, performing a fresh program accompanied by live Cuban music performed on stage by a genuine Cuban orchestra, consisting of 5 professional Cuban musicians. This live dance AND live music combination as seen in our pictures, is 'first of its kind' on the island.

While the greater part of the "Havana Dance" review enjoys predominantly Cuban flavor, the show is graced with a truly unique Caribbean choreography, and many tropical touches. "Havana Dance" unfolds on a two-tiered stage, with entrances and exits to and off the arena at different heights, which presents a



new visual concept. The custom-designed costumes are sensual, daring, colorful, and luxurious and set "Havana Dance" apart from any other cabaret.

Producer Steve Hudson who enjoyed an unprecedentedly-successful seven-year run with his previous "Let's Go Latin" review, conceived and created an exciting and much-evolved new must-see spectacle.

Tickets for "Havana Dance" are US\$ 49.- Children under 12 pay US\$25.-

Tickets are available at the theater box office, Renaissance Aruba Resort, and can also be purchased

at the concierge's desk at the Renaissance Aruba Resort.

Other ticket vendors include the De Palm Tours and Pelican Adventure Activity Centers at the resorts. A special dinner & show package is also available in conjunction with the L.G. Smith's Steak & Chop House for US\$89.- per person.

For additional information and reservations call the Crystal Theatre at Tel.: 583 6000, ext. 6115, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. After 5 p.m., call tel.: 583 6000 ext. 6357. Don't miss an opportunity to be greatly entertained by the sizzle of "Havana Dance." □

Driftwood Authentic Aruban Seafood Restaurant offers diners the ultimate dining experience in freshly line caught fish.

ORANJESTAD - Why should seafood enthusiast and other diners alike go to Driftwood Restaurant? Well let's start by mentioning that their fish is caught daily by the owner himself and prepared by a local chef. "Just like mama makes it." The food is fresh, the staff is friendly, and the place is definitely buzzing. If you want to catch your own fresh fish and can't stay for a sit-down dinner, enjoy their Charter Fishing trip and have them prepare it for you. Trust me; it doesn't get any fresher than this: From pier to plate as their motto says.



Fried fish would be the common choice, but you can get your entrée broiled, grilled or baked. However you can indulge in the more guilty options for lobster, Alaskan king crab legs, grouper, shrimp, Black Angus tenderloin and so forth. Ease your

conscience and add a salad or go all out and try their delicious crab cakes, fish soup, garlic escargots, lobster crepe and coconut shrimps before your hearty entrée.



While seafood stars at Driftwood, fish-phobic diners will not go hungry. They have a staggeringly vast menu, which doesn't miss much of anything, from authentic Aruban seafood, lobster, Alaskan king crab legs to chicken, lamb or steaks.

Q: Why do we serve only fresh line caught fish?

A: How fresh would you be after a net caught fish frozen import from Asia?



Driftwood restaurant has a long tradition of serving the best seafood and steaks for over 20 years!

Don't forget to make this a must dine at restaurant while on vacation, you are sure to indulge in some great tasty seafood.



Restaurant information and reservation: open daily (closed on Tuesdays) from 5pm-10:30pm. Tel. 583-2515. Located at Klipstraat 12 in the heart of downtown Oranjestad, within driving distance from the resorts. □



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Soul Beach Music Festival fans rock out at Hard Rock Cafe



MOOMBA - On Thursday night, Soul Beach Music Festival fans celebrated the opening of this years event at

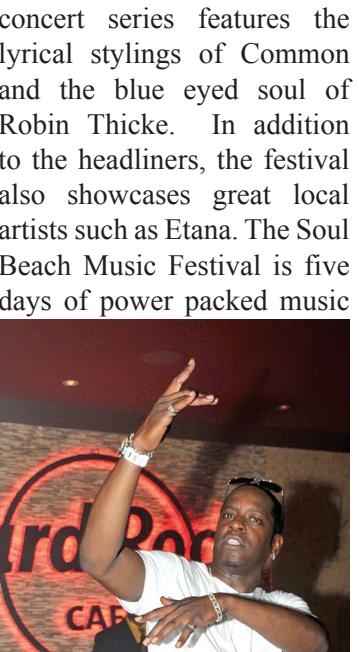


the Hard Rock Cafe Aruba. Everyone had a great evening dancing and singing till the wee hours of the morning. The popular music festival fly's into Aruba (May 20-25) for the most electrifying music event of the year! The Soul Beach Music Festival kicks off Memorial Day weekend in the sun kissed paradise of Aruba. The festival features concerts by some of today's hottest music artists from 7-11pm nightly on the Soul Beach Amphitheater's (adjacent to Club Havana) main stage. Friday night on the main stage, London's hottest new artist Estelle performs.

On the main stage Saturday night is the one and only Jamie Foxx. Sunday night's concert series features the lyrical stylings of Common and the blue eyed soul of Robin Thicke. In addition to the headliners, the festival also showcases great local artists such as Etana. The Soul Beach Music Festival is five days of power packed music

and events. In addition to the nightly concerts, festival patrons can also enjoy beach parties and the popular Aruba nightclub scene. □

~ Photo by Julia Renfro ~



Happy Birthday to Dr. Yvette



A special happy birthday wish goes out to Dr. Yvette Morales-Thuis on this very special day from her husband Armando, children Justin and Mikayla, together with Amanda, Jordan and their sister Paris.

~ Photo by Julia Renfro ~



Pakistani Army soldiers guard a post on top of a defense position on a former base of Taliban militants overlooking the Swat Valley, at Banai Baba Ziarat area, northwest of Pakistan's capital Islamabad, Pakistan, Friday, May 22, 2009. Troops are encircling Taliban militants in their mountain base as well as the main town in the Swat Valley, a Pakistani general said Friday, as the U.N. appealed for \$543 million to ease the suffering of nearly 2 million refugees from the fighting.

Associated Press
Read more on Page 6

Plot renews fears of radical Islam in prison

By ERIC GORSKI and RACHEL ZOLL

AP Religion Writers

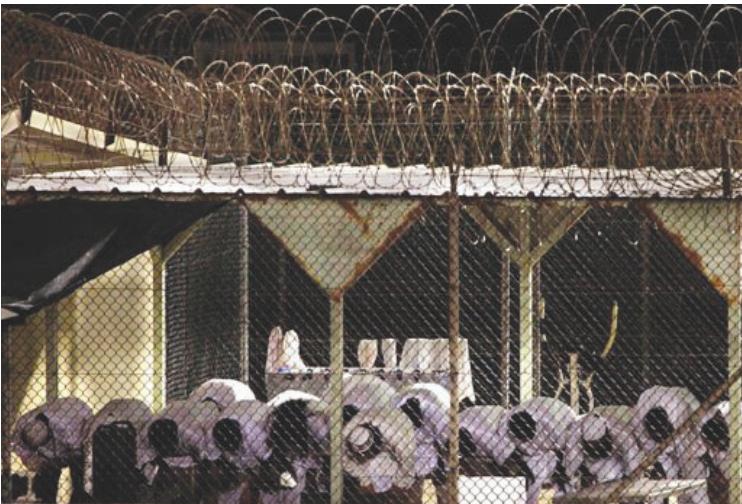
NEW YORK — The arrest of four Muslim ex-convicts in an alleged homegrown terror plot in the Bronx is renewing fears about the spread of Islamic extremism in the nation's prisons.

At least two of the four men suspected of plotting to bomb synagogues and shoot down military airplanes converted to Islam behind bars.

The alleged mastermind is also a convert, and the fourth man identified himself as a Muslim when he entered prison.

Islam has had a strong presence in U.S. prisons for decades, and many chaplains and corrections officials credit the faith, when taught properly, with being a stabilizing force that can help inmates turn their lives around.

But this week's foiled plot



is not the first terror scheme implicating Muslim convicts, and it comes despite reports of progress in screening chaplains and materials on Islam in the prison system. "Basically, the threat is real," said Paul Rogers, past president of the American Correctional Chaplains Association. "Prisons have unstable people and people who are on the edge of a lot of different things. The radical

elements of any religion can be emphasized."

Those fears were heightened this week as lawmakers debated the fate of detainees if President Barack Obama shutters the prison at Guantanamo Bay.

FBI Director Robert Mueller said terror suspects brought to the U.S. could end up "radicalizing others" or plan attacks on the country.

Continued on Next Page

Interpol joins search for missing Minn. mom, son



By PATRICK CONDON and AMY FORLITI

Associated Press Writers

MINNEAPOLIS — Minnesota authorities said Friday they were turning to an international law enforcement agency for help finding a woman and her 13-year-old son on the run from court-ordered cancer treatment for the boy.

Continued on Page B5



A man in charge of the evacuation of an office building gives instructions to residents after an earthquake in Mexico City Friday May 22, 2009. A strong earthquake shook central Mexico Friday afternoon, sending people into the streets in the capital.

Associated Press

Strong quake shakes tall buildings in Mexico City

JULIE WATSON

Associated Press Writer

MEXICO CITY (AP) — A strong earthquake swayed skyscrapers in Mexico City and rattled colonial buildings in neighboring Puebla state Friday, sending frightened people into the streets. There were no immediate reports of injuries or damage.

The U.S. Geological Survey said the quake had a magnitude of 5.7 and was centered 90 miles (140 kilometers) southeast of the capital. The Mexican seismological service measured it at 5.9. Puebla state civil protection chief German Garcia said there were no reports of injuries or collapsed buildings near the epicenter: "There is absolute calm, zero damage."

Continued on Page B6



President Barack Obama listens to his introduction by FBI Director Robert Mueller, seen here in April 2009, before speaking to employees at FBI Headquarters in Washington, DC. Mueller Wednesday undermined President Barack Obama's plan to close the Guantanamo Bay prison by warning that detainees could fuel terrorism if transferred to US soil.

Photo by Saul Loeb

PLOT

Continued from Page B1

Defense Secretary Robert Gates said Obama would do nothing to endanger the public and decried "fear-mongering about this."

The four defendants in the New York terror case had been in and out of prison.

Laguerre Payen said he

converted to Islam in prison, but a Muslim prayer leader who counseled him when he got out said he had a poor understanding of the faith. Onta Williams had registered as a Baptist in prison, but his uncle said he converted to Islam inside. David Williams and James Cromitie had registered as Muslim in

prison, according to correction officials.

Payen appears to be a Haitian citizen, while the three others are Americans. The Williamses are not related.

Mitch Silber, a top New York Police Department intelligence analyst, said inmates converting to Islam are so common that he and his colleagues call it "Prislam." Though many drop the faith once they are out, for some "the conversion sticks" and can fuel anger toward the United States, said Silber, co-author of the 2007 NYPD report "Radicalization in the West: The Homegrown Threat." Just as young people can be radicalized by "cut-and-paste" readings of the Quran on the Internet, new inmates may get a distorted view of Islam from gang leaders or other influential inmates, according to "Out of the Shadows: Getting Ahead of Prison Radicalization," a 2006 report by the George Washington University Homeland Security Policy Institute and the

University of Virginia Critical Incident Analysis Group.

Several imams used the term "Jailhouse Islam" to describe a form of Islam in prison that incorporates gang loyalty and violence, the report said. Many states are doing a better job of screening the reading material that comes into prisons, Rogers said. But other problems arise when there are no qualified chaplains or volunteers.

"Sometimes inmates rely on other inmates, and it's sort of the prison way," Rogers said. "They turn to someone they trust, their 'celly' or someone in their cellblock, and put them on a pedestal as someone who has more knowledge about the religion. He could be spreading knowledge, or could be spreading ignorance."

Inmates who were radicalized in prison include:

- Jose Padilla, a former Chicago gang member, who converted to Islam behind bars and was recruited at a mosque to become a mujahideen fighter, authorities said. Prosecutors

accused him of plotting to detonate a radioactive "dirty bomb," but he was convicted of unrelated terror support charges.

- Richard Reid, a British citizen and follower of Osama bin Laden, who was a prison convert in England and became involved with militants after he was freed. He pleaded guilty in 2002 to trying to blow up a trans-Atlantic flight with explosives hidden in his shoes. He is now serving a life sentence at a maximum-security prison in Florence, Colo.

- A group of prisoners in California who converted to Islam and were arrested in 2005 on charges of plotting behind bars to attack military sites, synagogues and other targets.

Islam took hold in U.S. prisons in the 1940s, when members of the Nation of Islam were held for refusing to fight in World War II. Malcolm X was one of their most famous prison recruits. □



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Govt: Guns barred from national parks until Feb.

MATTHEW DALY

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — A new law that will allow loaded guns in national parks and wildlife refuges will not take effect until next year, the Obama administration said Friday.

President Barack Obama signed the gun law Friday as part of a measure creating new rules for the credit card industry.

But a spokeswoman for the Interior Department said that because the credit card law will not take effect until nine months after it is signed, the gun measure also will be delayed.

Spokeswoman Kendra Barkoff said the Interior Department will follow Congress' directive and put the new firearms law into effect in late February 2010.

Bryan Faehner, associate director of the National Parks Conservation Association, praised the Interior Department's decision.

"We are pleased, because that provides more time that our parks will remain safe and free from shotguns, rifles and semiautomatic weapons,"

Faehner said.

"We hope that the American public and members of Congress will have more time to understand the far-reaching repercussions of this outrageous and disturbing law that has nothing to do with credit cards and will only put park visitors at risk," Faehner said.

Until February, rules adopted during the administration of President Ronald Reagan will remain in place. They severely restrict guns in the national parks, generally requiring that they be locked or stored in a glove compartment or trunk.

"As Interior prepares to implement the new law, the department will work to understand and interpret its implications for our national parks and wildlife refuges, with public safety and the safety of our employees as our foremost consideration," Barkoff said. "For the time being, the current Reagan administration regulations governing possession of firearms in national parks and wildlife refuges remain in place."

The Interior Department's decision drew immediate

criticism from Republican Sen. Tom Coburn, chief sponsor of the gun measure. Spokesman John Hart said Coburn will offer the gun amendment to other bills in order to implement the decision quicker.

Hart said Coburn was confident the amendment will be approved again, noting that the measure received support from 27 Democrats in the Senate, including the majority leader, Sen. Harry Reid.

The measure, adopted by wide margins in the House of Representatives and the Senate, allows licensed gun owners to bring firearms into



In this undated photo released by the National Park Service, Landscape Arch in Arches National Park is shown in southeastern Utah. Utah state geologists and a group of intrepid volunteers say Landscape Arch, which spans about 290 feet, is the longest natural arch in the world.

Associated Press

national parks and wildlife refuges as long as they are allowed by state law.

Hart said Congress clearly intended for the law to take

effect soon, adding that Coburn was disappointed the law apparently will not be in place this summer, when national parks are most crowded. □

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Obama signs law curbing surprise credit card fees

By PHILIP ELLIOTT

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama warned overeager shoppers and greedy credit card companies alike on Friday to act responsibly as he signed into law a bill designed to protect debt-ridden consumers from surprise charges.

The White House staged a signing ceremony in the Rose Garden, an indication of the legislation's importance to Obama.

Though opposed by many financial companies, the bill cleared Congress with broad support.

Obama made clear that he didn't champion the changes with the intention of helping those who buy more than they can afford through "reckless spending or wishful thinking."

"Some get in over their heads by not using their heads," the president said. "I want to be clear: We do not excuse or condone folks who've acted irresponsibly."

And yet, he said, for many of the millions of Americans, trying to get out of debt has been made difficult and



Lawmakers look on as President Barack Obama signs the Credit Card Accountability, Responsibility and Disclosure Act, Friday, May 22, 2009, in the Rose Garden of the White House in Washington. From left are, Rep. Luis Gutierrez, D-Ill., Sen. Carl Levin, D-Mich., Rep. Carolyn Maloney, D-N.Y., Sen. Charles Schumer, D-N.Y., Sen. Robert Menendez, D-N.J., Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid of Nev. Senate Banking Committee Chairman Sen. Christopher Dodd, D-Conn., Sen. Richard Shelby, R-Ala., ranking Republican on the Senate Banking Committee, and Rep. Walter Jones, R-N.C. and Rep. Keith Ellison, D-Minn.

bewildered by their credit card companies.

Nearly 80 percent of Americans have credit cards and half of those carry a balance, according to the White House. The Federal Reserve estimates the nation is some \$2.5 trillion

in debt, a figure that does not include home mortgages.

Obama said many people have gotten "trapped" because of the downturn in the economy that has turned family budgets on their heads. But, he said, "part of it is the practices of

the credit card companies." He criticized policies that allowed for confusing fine print; the sudden appearance of unexplained fees on bills; unannounced shifts in payment deadlines, interest charges or rate increases even when payments aren't late; and payments directed to balances with the lowest interest rates rather than the highest.

"We're here to put a change to all that," Obama said.

One part of the bill Obama did not publicly celebrate at the signing, a gun amendment. The measure by Sen. Tom Coburn, R-Okla., allows people to bring loaded guns into national parks and wildlife refuges.

The addition of the amendment to the bill — and Obama's acceptance of it — was viewed as a bitter disappointment for gun-control advocates.

They watched gun-rights supporters gain a victory from a Democratic-controlled Congress and a Democratic president that they couldn't achieve under a Republican Congress and president. Many blamed the National Rifle Association, which pushed hard for the gun law.

Democrats lawmakers and aides said they didn't have enough time to send the bill to

the House-Senate conference committee — where the gun provision could have been removed without a vote — and still get the bill to Obama by the Memorial Day weekend as he requested.

The new credit card rules, which go into effect in nine months, prohibit companies from giving cards to people under 21 unless they can prove they have the means to pay the debt or a parent or guardian co-signs. A customer also will have to be more than 60 days behind on a payment before seeing a rate increase on an existing balance. Even then, the lender will be required to restore the previous, lower rate if the cardholder pays the minimum balance on time for six months.

And consumers also will have to receive 45 days' notice and an explanation before their interest rates increase.

Despite being touted as a victory for consumers, financial experts said the bill could have unintended consequences as credit card companies look for ways to make up for potential lost revenue.

Those measures could include more cards with annual fees and the loss of a grace period before interest accrues, which would affect even those consumers who pay off their balance each month.

Last year, the Nilson Report estimated that more than 700 million credit cards were in circulation in the United States. That's more than two cards for every man, woman and child.

The president noted that nearly half of all Americans carry a balance on their credit cards, and that their average balance is more than \$7,000. Obama decried the "uneasy, unstable dependence" that a minority of card users have on credit.

"So we're not going to give people a free pass, and we expect consumers to live within their means and pay what they owe," Obama said. "But we also expect financial institutions to act with the same sense of responsibility that the American people aspire to in their own lives."

US asks Cuba to resume talks on legal immigration

By MATTHEW LEE,
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — In a new overture to Cuba, the Obama administration asked the island's communist government on Friday to resume talks on legal immigration of Cubans to the United States suspended by former President George W. Bush.

The State Department said it had proposed that the discussions, which were halted after the last meeting in 2003, be restarted to "reaffirm both sides' commitment to safe, legal and orderly migration, to review trends in illegal Cuban migration to the United States and to improve operational relations with Cuba on migration issues."

President Barack Obama "wants to ensure that we are doing all we can to support the Cuban people in fulfilling their desire to live in freedom," said Darla Jordan, a department spokeswoman. "He will continue to make policy decisions accordingly."

The move follows Obama's decision in April to rescind restrictions on travel to Cuba by Americans with family there and on the

amount of money they can send to their relatives on the island.

It also comes ahead of a high-level meeting early next month of the Organization of American States, where Cuba's possible reentry into the regional bloc will be discussed. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton will attend the June 2 meeting in Honduras. Clinton, however, told lawmakers this week that the U.S. would not support Cuba's membership in the organization until and unless President Raul Castro's regime makes democratic reforms and releases political prisoners.

She and Obama have also said that broader engagement with Cuba, including the possible lifting of the U.S. embargo on the island, is dependent on such steps.

There was no immediate reaction from the Cuban government on Friday, but communist officials were angered when the Bush administration decided to scuttle the talks on grounds they were not crucial for monitoring agreements aimed at preventing a mass exodus from the island. □

Prosecutors: Peterson tried to put hit on third wife

By DON BABWIN

Associated Press Writer

JOLIET, Ill. — Former police officer Drew Peterson offered someone \$25,000 to kill his third wife because he thought a pending divorce settlement would financially ruin him, but then killed her himself months later, prosecutors said Friday. Prosecutor James Glasgow made the allegation at a bail reduction hearing for Peterson's \$20 million bond. Judge Carla J. Alessio-Policandriotes refused to reduce the bond for the suburban Chicago police officer, who is charged with first-degree murder in Kathleen Savio's 2004 death. Peterson also is a suspect in the 2007 disappearance of his fourth wife, Stacy Peterson. He has maintained his innocence

INTERPOL

Continued from Page B1

Interpol, which coordinates police investigations across national borders, was joining the effort to find Colleen and Daniel Hauser. The FBI and other agencies were already involved.

"We're putting every effort we can into this," said Jason Seidl, a sheriff's deputy in southern Minnesota's Brown County. Colleen Hauser and Daniel, who has Hodgkin's lymphoma, left Minnesota after a court-ordered X-ray on Monday showed his cancer was growing. The most recent confirmed sighting of the pair was Tuesday morning in Southern California. Investigators suspect they might have headed to one of a number of alternative cancer clinics in northern Mexico. Doctors say Daniel has a cancerous tumor growing in his chest that's likely to kill him without chemotherapy, but the Hausers prefer natural healing methods inspired by American Indian traditions.

in Savio's death and Stacy Peterson's disappearance.

Glasgow said Peterson told a fellow police officer in late 2003 that he would be financially ruined by a pending divorce, and his life would be easier "if she was just dead." Glasgow did not reveal the source of his allegation. Savio's body was found with a gash on the back of her head in her bathtub three weeks later, the Will County prosecutor said.

Peterson is a flight risk, he said, because he knows how to disappear and knows he faces 20 to 60 years in jail if he's convicted.

Peterson attorneys said they planned to appeal the judge's refusal to lower his bond to under \$1 million.

Attorney Joel Brodsky said

The American Cancer Society estimates there are 35 to 50 clinics in Mexican border towns that attract cancer patients looking for alternatives to traditional U.S. treatment methods. Many of these clinics have offices in the San Diego area that serve as contact points for U.S. patients, who are then referred to clinics in Mexico.

On Thursday, Anthony Hauser appeared before reporters asking his wife to call him and to come home. "If you're out there, please bring Danny home so we can decide as a family what Danny's treatment should be," he said.

Anthony Hauser did not return phone calls seeking comment on Friday.

Brown County has issued a felony warrant for Colleen Hauser's arrest, which would ease extradition if she is caught in the United States. Authorities have said their options are less clear if the pair is already in Mexico.

At a news conference Thursday, Hoffmann vowed

Peterson has not fled, despite trips to Mexico, California and Florida, since police named him a suspect in Stacy Peterson's disappearance in late 2007.

Brodsky said that he had heard talk about Peterson trying to hire someone to kill Savio, but said it was "nothing substantive."

He added that they would investigate Glasgow's allegations.

Savio's family — who long said they believed Peterson killed her — said Friday's allegations about an attempted hit were a shock. But they were relieved that Peterson would remain in prison.

"Finally someone's listening to us," said Sue Doman, Savio's sister. "This is a victory for our sister, Kathleen."



This May 13, 2009 photo shows Colleen, left, and Daniel Hauser at their farm in Sleepy Eye, Minn. Authorities nationwide were on the lookout Wednesday, May 20, 2009 for a mother and her 13-year-old cancer-stricken son who fled after refusing the chemotherapy that doctors say could save the boy's life.

Associated Press

to arrange a safe return for Colleen Hauser without an enforcement action if she shows "a good faith effort to come back."

Philip Elbert, the court-appointed attorney for Daniel, said Friday he hadn't heard from his client. □



Former Bolingbrook, Ill., police sergeant Drew Peterson leaves the Will County Courthouse in Joliet, Ill., Thursday, May 21, 2009, after a court appearance. A new judge has been appointed in the murder case against former Illinois police officer Drew Peterson. Will County Chief Judge Gerald Kinney on Thursday appointed Carla J. Alessio-Policandriotes to oversee the case. Peterson is charged with first-degree murder in the 2004 drowning death of his third wife, Kathleen Savio.

Associated Press

Pamela Bosco, a Stacy Peterson friend who has acted as a spokeswoman for her family, said "nobody heard the cries, the pleas from Kathleen" for years.

"They were too slow to react to Stacy," she said. "I think today the court's listening to them."

Savio's death initially was ruled an accidental drowning, but authorities reopened the investigation after Stacy Peterson disappeared. They ruled Savio's death a homicide

after exhuming her body and completing a new autopsy. Peterson was arrested May 7. Peterson, who is known for making smart-aleck remarks in the media, was much more subdued in court Friday. He hung his head as he left the hearing, and got into a van to go back to jail.

The former Bolingbrook sergeant finally understood the seriousness of his situation, Glasgow said.

Peterson "realizes there is no way out," he said. □

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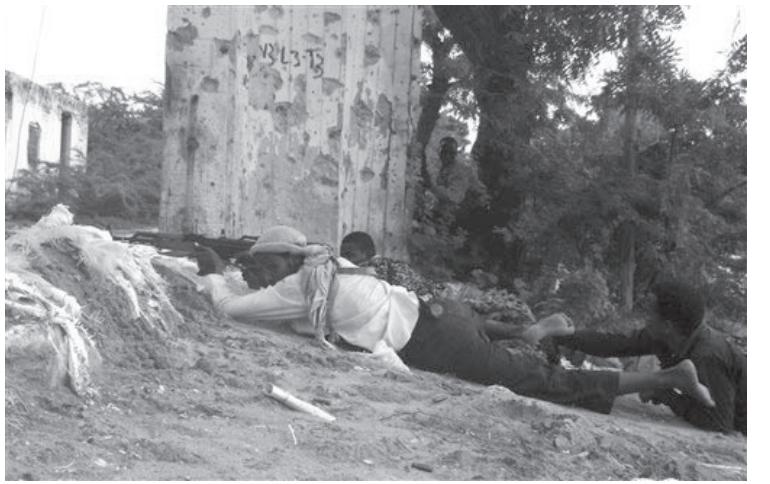
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Somali capital heavily shelled in renewed fighting



Islamic fighters take cover, during clashes between Islamic fighters and government soldiers, in Mogadishu, Somalia, Friday, May 22, 2009.

MOHAMED OLAD HASSAN
Associated Press Writer
MOGADISHU, Somalia (AP) — Hundreds of Somali government troops attacked

insurgent-held positions north and south of the capital on Friday and the heart of the city was heavily shelled, witnesses said. One said a busload of

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AT RENAISSANCE - ORANJESTAD

PG	NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM 2		7.50	10.10	NEW
daily:	3.20	5.40			
matinee:	1.05		late show:	12.20	
PG	MONSTERS VS ALIENS				
daily:	4.30				
matinee:	12.10	2.20	late show:		
PG-13	OBSESSED				
daily:	6.35	8.50			
matinee:			late show:	11.20	
PG-13	STAR TREK XI				
daily:	3.35	6.25	9.05		
matinee:	12.50		late show:	11.40	
PG-13	ANGELS & DEMONS				
daily:	5.30	8.20			
matinee:	11.55	2.40	late show:	11.10	
PG-13	X-MEN ORIGINS: WOLVERINE				
daily:	4.00	6.15	8.35		
matinee:	1.35		late show:	11.00	
PG-13	STATE OF PLAY				
daily:	4.20	6.50	9.20		
matinee:	1.50		late show:	11.55	

AT PASEO HERENCIA

PG	NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM 2		7.50	10.05	NEW
daily:	3.20	5.35			
matinee:	1.05		late show:	12.20	
PG-13	17 AGAIN				
daily:	4.40	6.50	9.05		
matinee:	12.10	2.25	late show:	11.25	
PG-13	ANGLES & DEMONS				
daily:	5.30	8.20			
matinee:	11.55	2.40	late show:	11.10	
PG-13	STAR TREK XI				
daily:	12.55	3.30	late show:		
PG-13	GHOSTS OF GIRLFRIENDS PAST				
daily:	6.10	8.35			
matinee:			late show:	11.00	
PG-13	X-MEN ORIGINS: WOLVERINE				
daily:	4.20	6.35	8.50		
matinee:	2.00		late show:	11.20	
PG	MONSTERS VS ALIENS				
daily:	4.30				
matinee:	12.00	2.15	late show:		
PG-13	STATE OF PLAY				
daily:	6.50		9.20		
matinee:			late show:	11.50	

Matinee: sat & sun | Late show: fri & sat

fleeing civilians was hit.

Shelling was heavy on a major north-south route through the city, Wadnaha Road, which the Islamic fighters took earlier this month, area resident Abdi Haji said. It is one of the four main roads in the capital, Mogadishu.

Friday's surge in fighting, following a few days' lull in a strong insurgent advance on Mogadishu, has killed at least 15 people and wounded over 150, residents, medical officials and an independent radio station said.

Resident Abdullahi Mohamud Sugow said he saw at least five people killed when a bus was shelled in the Hawl Wadag district.

"It was grisly scene. I can't tell you anything more," he said, before hanging up the phone. Pictures of the fighting showed gunmen crouched behind the ruins of shell-pocked buildings and bodies lying in the streets. In one photo, a

man clutches a wounded child to his chest in the back of a car, his shirt reddened with the blood streaming from the child's face.

In another, a man's lower jaw has been torn away by a bullet or piece of shrapnel.

Editor Abdirahman Yusuf Al-Adala of the independent radio station Shabelle Media Network also said a stray bullet killed journalist Abdirisaq Warsame Mohamed as he headed to work.

The Islamist insurgents are attempting to dislodge the U.N.-backed government from the few blocks of the capital it still controls. But the government is supported by 4,350 African Union peacekeepers, who are helping hold key installations such as the port, the airport and the presidential palace.

Government commander-in-chief Lt. Yusuf Osman Dumal said the fighting Friday began when Islamists attacked

government positions. But residents said the government used the temporary respite to reinforce and re-equip the troops under its control and that it appeared to be a planned government offensive.

Defense Minister Mohamed Abdi Gandi said the government launched the attack "to defend its people and defeat its opponents."

"We have captured new bases. We have conquered areas controlled by rebel groups," he said at a news conference in the capital. "We will continue the offensive against the rebels until we impose our authority all over the country."

But insurgents said they had repelled the government forces.

"The so-called government has attacked our bases. We have beaten them back and they retreated to their former stations," a spokesman for the insurgent Islamic Party, Muse Abdi Arale, said. □

metropolis of 20 million. Evacuation officials steered crowds away from power lines and other potential hazards, and anxious people waited for several minutes before returning indoors.

Others immediately got on Facebook and Twitter to tell friends and family they were OK. Some said their cell phone service was knocked out.

Friday's earthquake was stronger and closer to the capital than one that hit last month. But Bruce Tresgrave of the U.S. Geological Survey said it was 35 miles below ground — deeper than normal — and thus unlikely to cause major damage.

Mexico City Mayor Marcelo Ebrard also said no damage was reported, and the capital's water system, hospitals and subway were not affected. Officials were conducting a more detailed survey.

The capital has lived through powerful earthquakes, including one in 1985 that killed as many as 10,000 people. Parts of Mexico City rest on the shaky soil of a former lake bed, which tends to magnify the effect of earthquakes. □

MEXICO CITY

Continued from Page B1

Puebla city is a popular tourist destination known for its gilded churches and ornate "Talavera" pottery. One of the country's main Talavera producers, Uriarte, said the quake shook shelves but the merchandise emerged unscathed.

In Mexico City, 20-year-old office worker Mariana Rodriguez was in a 19th-floor bathroom when she felt her

building sway.

"I saw in the mirror that everything was moving," she said. "The soap even fell down. We were really nervous, but they didn't let us leave the building."

One 15-story apartment building in the trendy Condesa neighborhood rocked so much that doors opened and slammed shut — something the residents said sounded like "ghosts."

Many ran outside across the

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Wayne Brady



Estelle



Aruba Band SMS Competition Winner

Saturday, May 23, 2009 MUSIC CONCERT
Adjacent Havana Beach Club • 7p-11p



Jamie Foxx

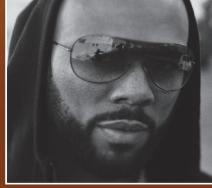


Etana

Sunday, May 24, 2009 MUSIC CONCERT
Adjacent Havana Beach Club • 7p-11p



Robin Thicke



Common



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SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Wednesday, May 20

Opening Party - Welcoming Celebration 10p-3a, Mr. Jazz by Chucho Valdes
Paseo Herencia, L.G. Smith Blvd 382-A 2nd Floor, Palm Beach

Thursday, May 21

Live Radio Remote Broadcasts

KJLH – The Guy Black Show 9a-1p, Radisson Aruba Resort, Casino & Spa, J.E. Irausquin Blvd No.81, Palm Beach

WHUR – The Mid Day with Triscina Grey 10a-3p, MooMba Beach, J E Irausquin Blvd 230, Palm Beach

The Doug & DeDe Show 3-7p – Renaissance Aruba Resort & Casino L.G. Smith Boulevard 82, Oranjestad

Soul Beach Daytime Event 10a – 3p, Aruba SMS Competition Showdown

MooMba Beach Bar & Restaurant, J E Irausquin Blvd 230, Palm Beach

Soul Beach Happy Hour 5-7p, The Village at Palm Beach, Chino Latino
Adjacent - J.E. Irausquin Blvd.

Nightclub Party 10p-2a, Hard Rock Cafe Aruba, (Also has NBA Playoff screenings), South Beach Building Loc. 33, Palm Beach

Friday, May 22

Live Radio Remote Broadcasts

KJLH – The Guy Black Show 9a-1p, Radisson Aruba Resort, Casino & Spa, J.E. Irausquin Blvd No.81, Palm Beach

WHUR – The Mid Day with Triscina Grey 10a-3p, MooMba Beach, J E Irausquin Blvd 230, Palm Beach

The Doug & DeDe Show – Renaissance Aruba Resort & Casino 3-7p L.G. Smith Boulevard 82, Oranjestad

Jamie Foxx Sirius Radio – Radisson 5-7p, Radisson Aruba Resort, Casino & Spa, J.E. Irausquin Blvd No.81, Palm Beach

Soul Beach Daytime Event 10a – 3p, Aruba Band SMS Competition Showdown, MooMba Beach Bar & Restaurant, J E Irausquin Blvd 230, Palm Beach

Main Stage Music Concert 7p-11p

Soul Beach Amphitheater, Adjacent to Havana Beach Club, Oranjestad, Featuring: Aruba Band SMS Competition Winner, Estelle • Wayne Brady

Nightclub Parties 11p – 4a, Havana Beach Club, L.G. Smith Blvd 1, Oranjestad

Saturday, May 23

Motorcraft Beach Party Event 10a-3p, MooMba Beach Bar & Restaurant, J.E. Irausquin Blvd 230, Palm Beach

Main Stage Music Concert 7p-11p

Soul Beach Amphitheater, Adjacent to Havana Beach Club, Oranjestad

Featuring: Hildward Croes • Etana • Jamie Foxx

Nightclub Parties 11p – 4a, Havana Beach Club, L.G. Smith Blvd 1, Oranjestad

Sunday, May 24

Black Planet Beach Party 10a-3p, MooMba Beach Bar & Restaurant

J E Irausquin Blvd 230, Palm Beach

Main Stage Concert 7p – 11p

Soul Beach Amphitheater, Adjacent to Havana Beach Club, Oranjestad,

Featuring: Soul Beach Music Search Winner -

Abby Dobson • Common • Robin Thicke

Nightclub Parties 11p – 4a, Havana Beach Club, L.G. Smith Blvd 1, Oranjestad

Monday, May 25

Soul Beach Cool Down Party 10p-3a, Mr. Jazz by Chucho Valdes, Paseo

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Pakistani military shows off captured Taliban base

CHRIS BRUMMITT

Associated Press Writer

BANAI BABA ZIARAT, Pakistan (AP) — A Pakistani flag now flies over army troops dug in on a strategic ridge that until two days ago was held by the Taliban, a base where militants trained fighters, built tunnels and equipped caves with electricity and air vents. The takeover of the highest Taliban stronghold in the Swat Valley by troops who stormed up its jagged, rubble-strewn slopes is evidence of the success of Pakistan's month-old army offensive.

The action has been welcomed by the United States, which fears the nuclear-armed country is capitulating to the militants.

But much of the region still remains in the hands of the militants, including Buner — a district just 60 miles from the capital Islamabad and the focus of intense air and ground operations in recent weeks, according to witnesses and police officers who spoke to an Associated Press reporter in its main town Friday.

Several residents pointed to the mountains and warned



A Pakistani flag flies over after government troops installed on top of a defense position on a former base of Taliban militants overlooking the Swat Valley, at Banai Baba Ziarat area, northwest of Pakistan's capital Islamabad, Pakistan, Friday, May 22, 2009.

Associated Press

that the Taliban were not far away.

Police were still too frightened to enter parts of Buner and the town of Dagar, 12 miles away, which the military said was "liberated" from the Taliban. "We have been destroyed by the Taliban," said white-bearded Ayub Khan, as army

trucks rumbled past a ruined market and a charred gas station where a suicide bomber had killed four soldiers in the early days of the battle. The Obama administration has declared eliminating militant havens in Pakistan vital to its goals of defeating al-Qaida and winning the war in neighboring Afghanistan. U.S. military officers say

insurgents use Pakistan as a base to launch attacks over the frontier in Afghanistan.

But Maj. Gen. Jeffrey Schloesser, the top U.S. general in eastern Afghanistan, said there was evidence that insurgents were crossing into Pakistan, possibly to join the fight in Swat and other regions of the northwest where militants are holed up.

His comments come amid concern in Washington and Islamabad that the ongoing buildup of 21,000 additional U.S. forces in Afghanistan may end up pushing Taliban militants into Pakistan, further destabilizing its border region.

The Swat offensive has triggered an exodus of nearly 1.9 million refugees, more than 160,000 to sweltering camps, while the rest have been taken in by relatives, friends or in rented accommodation. Foreign countries and the United Nations are donating money to relieve the crisis.

Unlike other campaigns against Taliban and al-Qaida militants, the current offensive has broad political and public support in Pakistan, but some fear that could drain away if the refugees are seen to be neglected or the fighting drags on.

The army claims to have killed more than 1,000 militants, but said Friday the Taliban control the main town of Mingora; Piochar, a side-valley farther north that is a Taliban base; and several other districts. The army said those areas are increasingly surrounded by Pakistani troops.

"The noose is tightening around them," Maj. Gen. Saajad Ghani, the commander of operations in Upper Swat. "Their routes of escape have been cut off. It's just a question of time before the Taliban leadership is eliminated."

He and another senior commander estimated the operation could last another two or three months.

The army took more than a dozen reporters to the camp after flying them to the valley by helicopter from Islamabad. The scenic region that once attracted honeymooners and skiers has largely been off-limits to the media since fighting broke out.

While foreign governments are praising the Swat operation, they will be looking closely to see whether the country expands the offensive into other parts of the border region, especially Waziristan, which has been hit by repeated strikes by U.S. missiles since last year. □



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Photo by Diane Keijzer

"Aruhiba" Aruba's homemade cigar



ORANJESTAD - Benjamin Petrochi has started the newest



export product of Aruba, locally produced cigars called 'Aruhiba'. These cigars are produced and cultivated in Aruba. Petrochi has always had an interest in the cigar business and has also sold cigars from outside, and now he is growing his own tobacco crop. After many attempts and trips to Santo Domingo and Cuba he started his own production and cultivation of "Aruhiba" cigars in Aruba. The process took 5 years Petrochi's dedication to the cigars is important for the molding and



process of making a perfect cigar which takes a long time. The cigar case is specially designed for the cigars with the logo 'Aruhiba' and 'Made in Aruba'. Petrochi considers 'Aruhiba' a promotion for Aruba through fine quality cigars.

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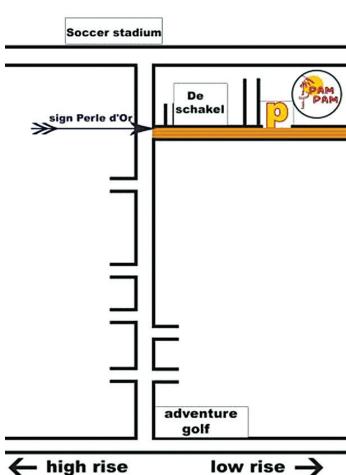


Pam-Pam Café, located in the charming Perle D'Or Resort in Bubali, is the place to be on Friday evenings for a great taste of regional music, dance, food and hospitality, as proprietors and hosts Nico and Monique van de Borne welcome guests for their weekly "Latin Night."

Pam-Pam Café is situated in a delightful tropical setting that is the perfect backdrop for a show by 2002 World Salsa Champions Janice and Oslin Boekhoudt, who run their Pachanga Dance School

out Perle D'Or. They and their dance troupe put on a show of the exotic Zouk, originating from the French islands of Guadeloupe and Martinique, and inspiration for the Brazilian Lambada. If their sensual movements inspire any audience members, they can sign up at Pam-Pam for private dance lessons from the Pachanga crew, which also teach Salsa and Merengue.

In addition to the island music and dance, reasonably priced snacks (10.50 in Aruban florins (\$6) for an Assorted Snack Platter or Buffalo Wings among



other choices) and cocktails are available throughout the evening. From 11 PM until closing time, Pam-Pam offers a special on top shelf whiskey for only 6 Aruban



florins (\$3.50)

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SPORTS

Aruba TODAY

NBA Playoffs

Golden Nuggets defeat Lakers 106-103 in Game 2

BETH HARRIS

AP Sports Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Kenyon Martin hit a layup and Chauncey Billups made 3 of 4 free throws over the last 30 seconds as the Denver Nuggets stormed home to beat the Los Angeles Lakers 106-103 on Thursday, levelling their NBA Western Conference finals series 1-1.

The defeat ended a run of 11 straight postseason losses by the Nuggets to the Lakers, dating back to 1985.

Carmelo Anthony had 34 points and 14 rebounds, Billups had 27 points and 16 rebounds and Linas Kleiza added 16 points for the Nuggets. Nene finished with six points, nine rebounds and six assists.

For Los Angeles, Kobe Bryant

had 32 points, including making all 10 of his free throws, Trevor Ariza scored a career playoff-high 20 points and Pau Gasol 17 points and 17 rebounds.

"To get one on the road is always tough. We came in and got it," Anthony said. "We're mentally tough and we showed that in this game coming off the loss that we gave away in Game 1."

Game 3 is Saturday in Denver. "This is going to be a long series," Denver coach George Karl said.

The Nuggets, whose poor free throw shooting caused a two-point loss in Game 1, made 17 consecutive foul shots until Billups missed one with 4 seconds remaining. He hit the second to seal the victory.



Denver Nuggets guard J.R. Smith (1) celebrates with teammates Carmelo Anthony, left, and Chauncey Billups, right, late in the second half of Game 2 of the NBA basketball Western Conference finals Thursday, May 21, 2009, in Los Angeles. The Nuggets won the game, 106-103.

Associated Press

NL Roundup

Cards stifle Cubs again in 3-1 win

Corey Hart had an RBI double in a three-run seventh for the Brewers, who maintained a two-game lead in the NL Central. The Astros blew a 3-0 lead after manager Cecil Cooper and first baseman Lance Berkman were ejected for arguing a close call at home plate.

Phillies 12, Reds 5

In Cincinnati, Chase Utley homered and drove in four runs as Philadelphia's powerful offense overcame Cincinnati.

Utley had a two-run single and a double off. He also had one of the Phillies' four solo homers.

Philadelphia, boasting the league's best offense, stretched its lead in the NL East to 1-1/2 games.

In San Diego, Scott Hairston singled in the winning run to cap a two-run rally in the ninth inning and give San Diego victory over San Francisco.

Hairston's bases-loaded single with two outs gave the Padres their season-high sixth straight win on a day when ace pitcher Jake Peavy refused a trade to Chicago so he could stay with the Padres.

In Atlanta, Aaron Cook pitched a four-hit shutout to guide Colorado over Atlanta.

Todd Helton's grand slam ended Colorado's power slump. Cook retired the final 16 batters for his second career shutout. He had 20 groundouts and did not allow a baserunner to advance past second for his first win in eight career starts against Atlanta.

In other NL games it was, Philadelphia 12, Cincinnati 5; Washington 5, Pittsburgh 4; Arizona 4, Florida 3; Colorado 9, Atlanta 0; Milwaukee 4, Houston 3; St. Louis 3, Chicago Cubs 1; and San Diego 3, San Francisco 2. □



St. Louis Cardinals' Adam Wainwright pitches in the first inning against the Chicago Cubs during the baseball game on Thursday, May 21, 2009, in St. Louis.

Associated Press

ST. LOUIS (AP) — Pitcher Adam Wainwright came within one out of St. Louis' second complete game in a three-game sweep of the Chicago Cubs, as the Cardinals won 3-1 on Thursday in the National League.

St. Louis slugger Albert Pujols hit a first-inning homer that knocked out a letter on an electronic advertisement in left field.

Wainwright allowed five hits in 8 2-3 innings, striking out seven with one walk.

The Cubs, limited to two runs in the series, have lost four in a row and also have dropped five of six to the Cardinals.

Brewers 4, Astros 3

In Houston, Prince Fielder drove in two runs with a single to help Milwaukee overcome Houston.

Derek Fisher launched a 3-point attempt to tie the game from the right corner, but missed as time expired.

With the game tied 101-101, Martin made the layup off Nene's assist that gave the Nuggets the lead for good.

Bryant dribbled upcourt and got into traffic, with Nene tipping the ball away to earn a jump ball with 18 seconds left. Gasol controlled the tip to Ariza, but the ball squirted away and Fisher fouled Billups. He made both for a 105-101 lead.

Martin fouled Gasol, who made both before Billups got fouled.

The Lakers were shaky on free throws in the fourth, making 9 of 14, while Denver didn't blink at the line.

Los Angeles led by 14 points early in the second quarter, and still by seven points in the third, but Denver stepped up its defense and rebounding while outscoring the Lakers 16-10 to trail 81-80 heading into the final 12 minutes.

Kleiza's 3-pointer early in the fourth quarter gave the Nuggets an 85-82 lead, their first since the game's opening minutes. Billups followed with two free throws and Anthony hit two baskets in a row to extend Denver's lead to 91-84.

Bryant missed a jumper, but he came up big on the Lakers' next possession, hitting a 3-pointer with Anthony's hand in his face. Shannon Brown tossed in a 3 and Lamar Odom made two free throws as part of an 11-2 run that put the Lakers back in front 95-93.

Denver regained the lead before Bryant's 3-pointer, again with Anthony guarding closely, tied the game 99-99 with 1:59 remaining. Billups made two free throws before Bryant's jumper tied it at 101. □

NHL Playoffs

Malkin scores 3 as Pens win 7-4, take 2-0 lead

ALAN ROBINSON

AP Sports Writer

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Pittsburgh star Evgeni Malkin notched his first playoff hat trick as the Penguins beat the Carolina Hurricanes 7-4 on Thursday to open a 2-0 lead in the NHL's Eastern Conference finals series.

Pittsburgh's other big-name player Sidney Crosby scored a record-tying sixth goal to start a playoff game this season, yet was upstaged by NHL regular-season scoring leader Malkin, who scored twice in the third period to give him a 25-24 goals edge over Crosby in playoffs.

In its two previous playoff rounds, Carolina had bounced back from losing the opener to square it in Game 2, but couldn't manage it this time, even though the Hurricanes tied the game three times.

Carolina will host Game 3 on Saturday.

Crosby scored with less than two minutes gone and Malkin just over six minutes later.

Carolina responded on both occasions, with goals from Chad LaRose and Jussi Jokinen. A Dennis Seidenberg

goal put Carolina up 3-2 after the first period.

Pittsburgh got the only two goals of the second period through Max Talbot and Chris Kunitz. Kunitz goal with only seven seconds remaining was his first in 24 games.

The Hurricanes turned to their fourth line to get the goal back as Patrick Eaves scored 2:35 into the third, tying the game 3-3.

Carolina stalled after that, unable to match Pittsburgh's speed or the repeated ability of its stars to find open ice for repeated scoring chances.

Malkin, seemingly motivated by Carolina's attempts to be more physical with him than usual during the second period, made it 5-4 with 8:50 gone in the third period.

Malkin, who set up several scoring chances in the final period, made it 6-4 less than four minutes later with a one-man goal. He picked up the puck in the corner, carried it behind the net and used a spin move to put a backhander past goalie Cam Ward from a sharp angle for his 10th of the playoffs.

"It was a great shot," Carolina



Pittsburgh Penguins' Evgeni Malkin, center, of Russia, celebrates his third goal of the night with teammates Mark Eaton, left, Ruslan Fedotenko, of Russia, and Kris Letang, right, in the third period of Game 2 of the NHL hockey Eastern Conference finals in Pittsburgh, Thursday, May 21, 2009. The Penguins won 7-4 and lead the series 2-0.

Associated Press

defenseman Seidenberg said. "I don't know who saves that. He's a great player and great players, eventually they break out. Today was his day it seemed like."

As dozens of hats littered the ice, Malkin's father, Vladimir, repeatedly kissed his mother, Natalia — the parents are

visiting from Russia — as Penguins fans cheered them almost as loudly as they did their son.

"It was good to do that for my parents," Malkin said. "I was very happy I could do that for them."

Ward couldn't handle the repeated flurries by the

Penguins, who have scored 29 goals in six games. Tyler Kennedy completed the scoring later in the third for Pittsburgh.

The Penguins are trying to become the first team since the 1984 Edmonton Oilers to lose in the Stanley Cup finals one season and win it the next. □

AL Roundup

Red Sox win third straight over Blue Jays



Boston Red Sox's Jason Bay, right, is congratulated by teammate Mike Lowell (25) after Bay's two-run home run off Toronto Blue Jays starter Robert Ray during the first inning of their baseball game in Boston, Thursday, May 21, 2009.

Associated Press

BOSTON (AP) — Jason Bay set a Boston record with his 11th straight homer with runners on base as the Red Sox won 5-1 on Thursday to complete a three-game sweep of the Toronto Blue Jays in the American League.

The three wins have moved Boston within half a game of Toronto atop the AL East Division.

Bay hit his 13th homer of the year, a two-run shot in a three-run first inning, and Boston led 5-0 before Toronto got a run in the seventh.

The Blue Jays began the series with the most runs in the majors but totaled just five against the Red Sox in suffering their first three-game losing streak of the season.

Pitcher Jon Lester rebounded

from two bad starts as Boston moved to a 15-2 record in its past 17 home games.

Tigers 4, Rangers 3

In Detroit, Miguel Cabrera hit a go-ahead single in the eighth inning and Detroit won its sixth straight game, defeating Texas.

The Tigers have beaten the Rangers 11 times in a row at Comerica Park.

Texas arrived in Detroit this week with an eight-game winning streak, but managed only seven runs in three straight losses.

In New York, Robinson Cano drove in three runs to help New York race out to a big lead and beat Baltimore, notching a

ninth straight win.

The Yankees won despite losing starting pitcher Joba Chamberlain to a leg injury in the first inning.

Cano hit an RBI double in New York's four-run first and a two-run shot in the second.

Angels 3, Mariners 0

In Seattle, Juan Rivera, Gary Matthews Jr. and Howie Kendrick accounted for the Angels' first three hits of the game with home runs, and that was all that was needed to beat Seattle.

Rivera hooked a pitch just inside the left-field pole with two outs in the first. Two innings later, Matthews went deep for the first time this

season with a line drive into the Angels' bullpen in left. Kendrick capped the night with a solo shot with two outs in the eighth.

In Kansas City, Missouri, Victor Martinez drove in three runs to lift Cleveland over Kansas City.

The Indians got past the Royals' form pitcher Zack Greinke and made hay against the Kansas City bullpen.

In other AL games it was, Detroit 4, Texas 3; Minnesota 20, Chicago White Sox 1; Cleveland 8, Kansas City 3; Tampa Bay 6, Oakland 5; N.Y. Yankees 7, Baltimore 4; Boston 5, Toronto 1; and L.A. Angels 3, Seattle 0. □

Nadal's bid for five in France starts vs. qualifier



Defending champions Spain's Rafael Nadal, right, and Serbia's Anna Ivanovic frame French Tennis Federation president Jean Gachassin during the draw for the French Open tennis tournament at Roland Garros stadium in Paris, Friday May 22, 2009.

HOWARD FENDRICH
AP Tennis Writer

PARIS (AP) — After a loss to Roger Federer and a four-hour struggle to beat Novak Djokovic in his two most recent matches, four-time

defending champion Rafael Nadal got a bit of good news Friday from the French Open draw.

Federer and Djokovic are lined up to meet in the semifinals, meaning the top-seeded Nadal

Associated Press

could only face one or the other in the final as he bids to become the first man to win the clay-court Grand Slam tournament five consecutive years.

Not that Nadal is looking ahead to a potential final against one of those two. Or even a possible semifinal against No. 3 Andy Murray. Indeed, the Spaniard won't even acknowledge he feels any sort of pressure to add to his 28-0 record at Roland Garros, where play starts Sunday.

"My only pressure is try to play good tennis, try to play well, and later we will see what happens," Nadal said. "The tournament is always really tough. Long matches, against the best players of the world. So we will see."

Federer reiterated Friday that he got "a big boost" from winning last weekend's Madrid Open final, ending Nadal's 33-match winning streak on clay. Djokovic, meanwhile, derives confidence from having held three match points in a narrow semifinal loss to Nadal in Madrid.

"Getting closer and closer. So there's only one more point to go," said Djokovic, the 2008 Australian Open champion. "I played probably one of the best matches in my life against him on the clay court, even though I lost it. I must be proud of myself."

Federer, too, took heart from seeing what happened in that

semifinal.

"When someone dominates a surface like Rafa does, it's good to see that he almost lost to Djokovic — that it's doable, if you play well," Federer said.

"If each year he wins 40 matches on clay, and you never manage to beat him, it's obvious that you become more pessimistic."

Federer's bid to win his first French Open championship — and tie Pete Sampras with a record 14th major singles title — will start against Alberto Martin of Spain.

Nadal was drawn to face a qualifier in the first round and could meet two-time major champion Lleyton Hewitt in the third, then 14th-seeded David Ferrer in the fourth. Murray's first opponent is Juan Ignacio Chela of Argentina, a 2004 French Open quarterfinalist whose four career tour titles all came on clay and who once was ranked 15th. Chela missed the past three major tournaments because of a herniated disc.

"He's obviously a tough clay-court player," Murray said. "Definitely can't afford to look past him."

The potential men's quarterfinals are Nadal vs. No. 8 Fernando Verdasco in what would be rematch of a five-set thriller in the Australian Open semis, Murray vs. No. 7 Gilles Simon, Federer vs. No. 6 Andy Roddick, and Djokovic vs. No.

5 Juan Martin Del Potro. The possible women's quarterfinals are No. 1 Dinara Safina vs. defending champion Ana Ivanovic, No. 3 Venus Williams vs. No. 6 Vera Zvonareva, No. 2 Serena Williams vs. No. 7 Svetlana Kuznetsova, and No. 4 Elena Dementieva vs. No. 5 Jelena Jankovic.

The Williams sisters were drawn into opposite sides of the tournament and could meet in the championship match. Serena beat Venus in the 2002 final for the family's only singles title at Roland Garros; they have won 16 majors elsewhere.

Safina starts against Anne Keothavong of Britain, while Maria Sharapova will play Anastasiya Yakimova of Belarus in her first Grand Slam match since Wimbledon last year. Sharapova returned to the tour this week after missing nearly 10 months due to a shoulder injury and is not seeded.

The second-seeded Serena will meet Klara Zakopalova of the Czech Republic in the first round, while No. 3 Venus faces Bethanie Mattek-Sands of the United States.

Serena won the last two Grand Slam tournaments, but has lost her past four matches while dealing with a bad knee.

"I don't think I'm the favorite coming in," she said. "I'm glad to be here more than anything." □

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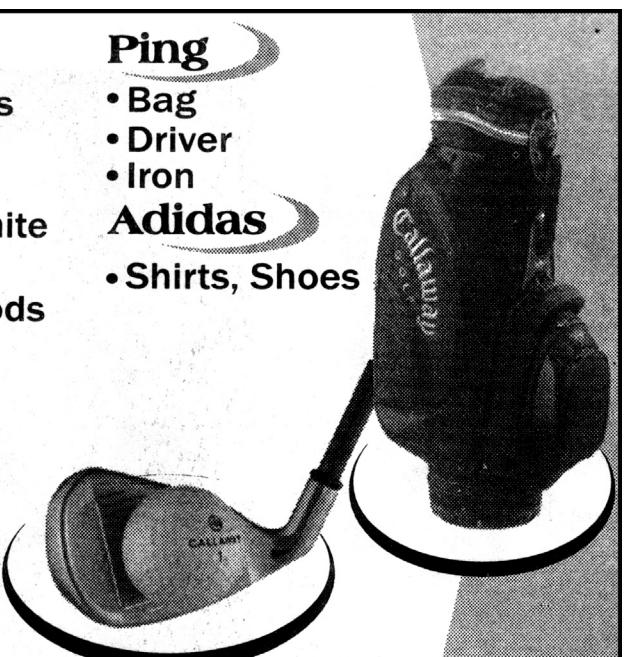
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Fuerte sismo de magnitud 5.7 sacude zona central de México

PUEBLA, México (Reuters)

- Un sismo de moderada intensidad hizo temblar el viernes a la zona central de México, llevando a evacuar decenas de oficinas en la capital y en la cercana ciudad colonial de Puebla, pero sin que se reportaran de inmediato víctimas ni daños mayores.

El movimiento fue de magnitud 5.7 con epicentro a 60 kilómetros al sur de la ciudad de Puebla, en el estado del mismo nombre, de acuerdo con datos revisados del Servicio Geológico de Estados Unidos (USGS por sus siglas en inglés). Autoridades mexicanas dijeron que la magnitud fue

de 5.9.

Aunque no se registraron de inmediato daños ni víctimas, algunos servicios de emergencia dijeron que aún era temprano para hacer un reporte. "No hemos registrado hasta este momento daños, no hay pérdidas de vidas humanas", dijo el alcalde capitalino, Marcelo Ebrard, a una radio local, después de aclarar que los hospitales, el subterráneo y el servicio de agua funcionaban con normalidad.

En Puebla, el director general de Protección Civil del estado, Miguel Angel Martínez, coincidió en que no había daños materiales ni

humanos hasta ese momento.

Sin embargo, en esa ciudad colonial y sus alrededores varios edificios y escuelas fueron evacuados, como la gigantesca planta de la automotriz Volkswagen.

"Lo sentimos intenso y largo, sacamos a la gente de los edificios, los reunimos en puntos de emergencia. Son 3,000 empleados administrativos", dijo un portavoz de la planta, que pidió el anonimato. Las emisoras de radio reportaron que el sismo se sintió en varios puntos de la capital mexicana -a unos 200 kilómetros de Puebla- y en el vecino estado de México.



Gente en las calles tras un sismo en Ciudad de México, 22 mayo 2009 REUTERS/Eliana Aponte

"Mi escritorio se movió de un jalón y tiró todas las fotografías que tenía. Las paredes tronaron muy fuerte. Yo salí corriendo con mis compañeros", dijo

Guadalupe Rojas, empleada de un despacho de abogados en un antiguo edificio de la avenida Reforma, una de las principales vías de la capital. □

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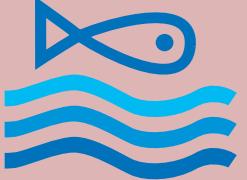
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